

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Date 23 AUG 1979

AMB. LEONHART

EXEC. SECRETARY

22 August 1979

Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment

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*due mid Sep*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Senior Review Panel

SUBJECT : Theory and Practice of NIEs, SNIEs, and IIMs

1. One of my earliest priorities is to undertake an examination of the major instruments of interagency intelligence assessments. The recent review of production planning and programming has made it clear that our own practice is not uniform and that different members of the Intelligence Community subscribe to conflicting concepts about the distinctions among NIEs, SNIEs, and IIMs.

2. This unsettled state of affairs is confusing, productive of unnecessary delays, and militates against the effective use and impact of these formats. I would like to request the Senior Review Panel to look into the matter, examine previous definitions, clarify the pros and cons of alternative practices, and forward to me its suggestions or advice on how the problem might be resolved.

3. You should feel free to develop the study as you think appropriate. What I would like, at this stage, is a broad and comprehensive new look at the problem, from an independent perspective, which could serve as a basis for subsequent discussions and coordination within NFAC and the Community.

Bruce C. Clarke, Jr.

cc: DCI  
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